implementation to address the food security concerns at the household and individual levels.

Sugar mills in Karnataka

1976. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sugar factories in Co-operative sector are not in a position to pay dues to the farmers;

(b) the steps, Government propose to take for the payment of arrears to the sugarcane growers;

(c) the steps taken by the Karnataka Government for the revival of, sick Co-operative sugar mills in the State; and

(d) the amount due to farmers from Co-operative sugar factories in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) The sugar factories have, in general, expressed difficulties in payment of cane price dues to the sugarcane farmers. In recent months, the Central Government initiated several steps to assist the sugar industry to clear cane price arrears including creation of bulffer stock of the 20 lakh tonnes of sugar (in December 2000) for a period of one year, reimbursement of internal transport charges and neutralization of ocean freight disadvantage on exports of sugar.

(c) and (d) Government of Karnataka has reported that a Cabinet Sub-Committee under the Chairmanship of the Minister for Agriculture has been appointed to go into details about the reasons and possible revival in respect of sick sugar mills. The amount due to sugarcane farmers from Co-operative sugar factories in the State is Rs. 64.30 crores.

Diversion of sugar meant for export

1977. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in Maharashtra a number of sugar mills and exporters have directed sugar meant for export in the domestic market violating